

ELLEN ADAIR FINDS LIFE'S ODD WAYS INCOMPREHENSIBLE

The World Is So Full of Such Wonderful Things That I'm Sure We Should All Be as Happy as Kings.

XXIV.

Four weeks have passed since that September night when I sat, pen in hand, for hours, and hours, to write the strange new happenings of my life. In spite of having made some friends—I had been here in Philadelphia since the end of July—yet I felt the saddest girl on earth that rainy autumn night when I first started to record the tale.

The rain kept dripping on the roof that night, and my sad thoughts were but poor company. A mother's death, the loss of home and friends in England, with the strangeness of a lodging house in this new country, proved a burden very hard to bear. The absence of an uncle whom I knew would welcome me had been here was yet another disappointment, too.

October now is come, and life has tuned up to a brighter key. I still am a stenographer, but now more reconciled to all its routine—though this position only lasts another week.

Tonight I feel a strange elation and a curious new sense of happiness to come—I wonder why? I will not, must not, look too deep within my heart!

Last night I spent a very pleasant evening with most kindly friends. The little spinster who had been a member of the "Western Planet" order gave a party in my honor in her house.

"My dear," said she, "I want to introduce you to the right sort of people, and you certainly will meet such at our home! My brother has the nicest sort of friends—he is a lawyer, and a real stickler for etiquette. We have these small informal receptions once a week."

THE LITTLE GRAY GOWN.

To grace the evening I unearthed right from the bottom of my shabby trunk a simple little gown of gray. It is three months now since my mother died, and last night was the first occasion on which I wore anything but the deepest black.

To me the thought that lies behind the putting-on of mourning seems a purely pagan one. If we believe that relatives and friends have "passed across" into a happier world than this, where tears are dried on every cheek and every heartache washed away, why mourn in deepest black because their pain is gone?

They do not happen for that, you know, that in another world my mother's kindly eyes are watching me. I know that she is happy, and if any heartache ever could come to her there it is because she thinks that I am lonely now that she has gone away.

So I put on the little gown of Quaker gray cut in the English style, with one button in the center, and a snowy fold of the wide hem that I wore draped on the shoulders of the dress. I tried to fix my hair right in the neatest fashion, but my hair is curly and I was obliged to stay up in that stiffened way. It broke into the oddest little waves and twists, and then I saw that with the gown of Quaker gray, the old dower, which was a trifle more than I needed, was a trifle more than I needed.

"The better to have loved a lot than never to have loved at all!" A little widow is a dangerous thing.



MRS. WILLIAM I. HULL, OF SWARTHMORE

Chairman of the Suffrage Committee in the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women. The question of suffrage comes up for indorsement or rejection at the Pittsburgh meeting next week. Mrs. Hull, a model clubwoman, was for several terms president of the Swarthmore Woman's Club, one of the most active and influential clubs in the State. Mrs. Hull is a daughter of Isaac H. Clothier and wife of Prof. William I. Hull, (Swarthmore College), secretary of the Pennsylvania Peace and Arbitration Society. The Suffrage Committee, which Mrs. Hull directs, has been particularly active during this year in pursuance of the resolution of the 1913 convention, when it was voted that the question of suffrage pro and con be carefully studied and presented to all clubs throughout the year. These considerations become basis for action this year at Pittsburgh, October 13-16, when from enlightened discussion will come the definite decision concerning the popular voice on the suffrage question. Keenest interest centres about the action, for it will be made and stand as representative of Pennsylvania's 32,000 federated clubwomen.

IDEAS IN IDLENESS

The way to a woman's heart is paved with little courtesies, gentle and unobtrusive attentions, and kindness.

When one is tempted to write a clever but harsh thing, though it may be difficult to restrain it, it is always better to leave it in the inkstand—Smiles.

Lives of bankrupts all remind us, we can sell our goods on time and, departing, leave behind us creditors in every clime.

Twinkle, twinkle, little star—we know exactly what you are. In olden times your rhyme might do, but since we've learned a thing or two.

It is quite a common thing for a limb, arm or leg, which has been broken several years before, to occasionally ache. They often ache when there is a sudden change of weather.

"The better to have loved a lot than never to have loved at all!"

A little widow is a dangerous thing.

THE RAJA'S PICKLE

Three quarts vinegar, one-quarter pound of mustard, one-half ounce of black pepper, one ounce of cloves, one ounce of allspice, one ounce of cayenne, one ounce of ginger, one ounce of turmeric, one tablespoonful of salt, one tablespoonful of sugar. Boil for 20 minutes, and then add any kind of vegetable cut small—cauliflower, gherkins, onions, French beans, Indian crease seeds (nasturtiums), and anything else handy. Boil up once, stir and pour into jars; when cold tie down. If the liquid appears too thin, in about three weeks, strain it off, boil up, and add more mustard.

MY LADY'S HANDS

There are many little ways by which the hands can be taken care of, although daily domestic duties are carried through. Begin the night before, and wash the hands thoroughly with warm water and good toilet soap. A little oatmeal may be used at the same time, tied in a piece of muslin, or put into the palm of one hand, and used as soap. This removes dirt very quickly without roughening the skin. Pay great attention to the nails and to the skin at the base. When quite clean, rinse out every trace of soap or oatmeal and dry thoroughly. Afterwards rub in a simple emollient, and wear a pair of old kid or chamolite gloves, with the palms pierced for ventilation. During the day wear gloves when performing any kind of rough work, and never allow the hands to remain wet or imperfectly dried. Stains are removed from the hands with a piece of cut lemon or a little vinegar and salt mixed. Pumice soap tablet is a useful thing for the same purpose.

You will find this a very useful recipe, if you happen to have a large supply of this fruit. Gather the plums when they are not too ripe, and prick them in several places with a darning needle. For every pound of fruit allow half a pound of sugar, and melt this in a little water, skimming it frequently. Now add the plums; boil for half an hour; lift them out, and boil the sugar for 20 minutes, or until it "caramels," which you can tell by taking a small quantity in a spoon, and letting it drop until it threads out in strings; turn it over the plums, and let them dry in a cool oven, stirring them about every few minutes. When nicely candied, put into boxes.

TO DRY PLUMS

Some children do not like macaroni as a sweet pudding, although they will enjoy it if served with jam and plenty of milk. Cheese will not harm them if only a small quantity is given. Have you ever tried it for them with macaroni? Boil the latter all quite soft; drain off the water, cut the macaroni very small, and put some in a buttered pie-dish. Sprinkle a little grated cheese on it, and fill up the dish with more macaroni; put some pieces of butter on the top, and brown in a quick oven. Rice may be substituted for the macaroni if you think they will prefer it.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

BEFORE THE SANDMAN COMES

ONCE upon a time, a little green leaf lay on a tree—away up near the tip, tip top.

Of course, he was just a baby leaf; but he was so sturdy and strong that he didn't stay a baby leaf very long.

First thing the old mother tree knew there was another baby leaf on the tip, tip top, and the erstwhile baby leaf was a full-sized leaf—as big and strong and green as any on the tree!

The leaves had a beautiful time all the days—playing with the sunbeams and dancing with the breezes, and all the nights visiting with the winds.

One day in the fall the south wind rushed up to the tree at twilight.

"Oh, listen," he panted, "I've got the most wonderful news!"

"Really? To tell us?" shouted the whole tree full of leaves all at once.

"I've seen an aeroplane," said the wind. "It's right over there in that field, and it's going to fly tomorrow!"

"To fly?" "How can it?" "Where is it?" shouted different leaves all at the same time.

"Yes, it will fly," answered the wind. "I've seen it right over the field, and I heard the men talking about it as I came by."

"We can see it tomorrow, then," said the old mother tree sensibly. "And there's no need at all for all you leaves to get so excited at bedtime. Let us go to sleep now," she added, to

the leaves, "and in the morning we can see the whole thing!" So the wind slipped away in the twilight and the leaves went to sleep—every one.

Next morning, sure enough, some men came and worked on the queer looking thing called an aeroplane and let them fly by means of a string of kites, and spread them out to dry. Children like them very much.

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CORRESPONDENCE

In answer to the article on the Expediency of Early Engagements, the following letters have been received:

Madam—In the letters to the EVENING LEDGER, I have looked and looked for a letter that would suit my case—but, as yet, I have found none. So I am writing to ask some of the readers to try to help me solve a problem. I might go so far as to call it "the problem of my life."

I am practically engaged to two men at the same time. "A" is 12 years my senior. He is what you might term a "heart breaker" among the opposite sex—very wealthy, a wonderful disposition, generous nature and considered handsome. He was educated abroad, and has traveled extensively through Europe, which therefore makes him a brilliant conversationalist. He wants me to marry him this coming January.

Now, of course, he has seen the world—not through rose-colored glasses—but has helped some of the wild oats of the field of life. But for years he has been what you might term "almost too good to lose."

"B" is not wealthy by any means. He has a bigger heart than head; but he thinks that I am just perfect. He asks my opinion on everything, and acts just as I say. He has had no education to speak of, has spent his money foolishly and, naturally, got into debt.

"B" is just my junior by one year, and has made all sorts of promises that if I marry him he will do anything in this world that I wish. "A" suits himself first, and then tells me he knows that I will like things, whereas "B" suits me first, and takes whatever I say willingly. I love them both. They are both really wonderful men. They are the kind you hear of every day, readers of the EVENING LEDGER, but if you came to decide on one for a partner through life, you really would not know which to take, now would you?

DUBIOUS DAUGHTER. Philadelphia, October 9, 1914.

To the Editor of the Woman's Page, Evening Ledger. Madam—I read your article this evening on "Early Engagements" and thought, perhaps, you might be able to help me in a serious matter.

I have been going about steadily with a young man for about a year, and although we are not engaged, he is claiming the privilege to kiss me goodnight. Should I allow him to do this? F. E. R. Philadelphia, October 9, 1914.

A THOUGHTFUL HUSBAND Mrs. Smith had a colored maid who had been with her for some time. The girl left her and got married. A few months later she came to see Mrs. Smith.

"Well, Mandy," asked the former mistress, "how are you getting along?" "Oh, fine, ma'am, thank you," the bride answered.

"Is your husband a good provider?" "Yes, indeed, he is, ma'am," said Mandy, enthusiastically. "Why, jes' dis las' week, ma'am, he got me six new places to wash at."

AN UNHAPPY ANSWER The palm for absent-mindedness is probably taken by a learned German. One day the professor noticed his wife placing a large bouquet on his chair.

"What does that mean?" he asked. "Oh, that," she exclaimed, "don't you know that this is the anniversary of your marriage?"

"Ah, indeed; is it?" said the professor politely. "Kindly let me know when yours comes around and I will reciprocate the favor."

EVERY CLOUD "What," said a bachelor to a benedict, "married only a year and already so miserable?"

"Ah, out," he said, "a wife is an expensive article, that is true; but then you must remember that she lasts a very long time."

WHAT THE CHILDREN LIKE Try some toffee apples for the children. Get some small apples, and stick a little piece of thin wood in each for a stalk. Have ready some hot toffee, dip the apples into it by means of the little stick, and spread them out to dry. Children like them very much.

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Correspondence of general interest to women readers will be printed on this page. Such correspondence should be addressed to the Woman's Editor, Evening Ledger.



TWEED SKIRT AND TUB SILK BLOUSE SMARTLY TAILORED

RECIPES FOR THE BUSY HOUSEWIFE

PICKLED SHALOTS

This should be done as soon as possible after the shalots are harvested, which, as they are then peeled more easily.

RED CABBAGE PICKLE

For this purpose, you must select the very best kind of cabbage—it is quite an error to suppose that any bruised and defective vegetable will do for pickling.

HOME HINTS

Soaking the steak in vinegar and salad oil in equal proportions is said to make it tender, but a joint of beef is best hung for three or four days, when the weather permits. I do not know of any other plan.

To clean your black marble clock, mix together equal parts of pearl ash and soft soap and apply it rather thickly with a piece of soft flannel, which you have seasonably cut and trimmed frocks to make them a wise investment for practical wear; that is, for wearing for a season, day in and day out.

But the simple, straight and severely cut skirt look as well on their last day as on their first—in fact, to the very end of the chapter of their wearing.

HOW TO VIEW PHOTOGRAPHS

One Eye Should Be Used, As Is Case With Camera. Photographs should be looked at with only one eye, to appear best, states F. W. Marlow in an article on "How to Look at a Photograph" in Photo-Era.

"Most photographs, particularly small ones, are taken with a camera lens, and interiors, fail to produce their full effect, or to be estimated at their true value, because they are not looked at in the most effective way," the author says. "Take as an example a print resulting from a camera with a five-inch focus lens. Such a print is usually looked at with both eyes open, and held at a distance of 13 inches or more. Now, a camera is essentially a one-eyed instrument, or, at any rate, it views the object to be reproduced from a single point, the optical center of the lens. The object must be looked at, therefore, with one eye only, and from a point corresponding as nearly as possible to the optical center of its lens if its characteristics as it is to be reproduced in the camera are to be appreciated."

"Let it be remembered that when a print is looked at with both eyes open the impression of flatness is greatly diminished. If, at the same time, the eye be placed at the right distance, everything is seen under its natural angle or perspective, and the picture unfolds itself; the different objects receding to their proper relative distances, making details very obvious which may be unnoticed if looked at in the ordinary way."

"As a sort of corollary to the above, use one eye alone to decide whether a landscape or other scene is worth taking. If with one eye the scene looks flat, it will not make a satisfactory photograph."

Fresh beans are put into boiling water to cook in milk, the water should continue boiling until they are tender. A little salt is added to the water.

To clean a new and rusty boiler, first rub grease freely all over the surface, then put in an amount of shaving soap and let it to them. When cold, put a boiler full with water, and let it boil several hours. While the boiler is still warm empty it, rinse out and smear well with soft soap, leaving it until the boiler is required for use.

The yolk of a fresh egg, beaten in a fork, substitutes for cream, and is an excellent substitute for cream, and is very nutritious, but you must be careful to remove every atom of the white of an egg very slowly into the milk, by pouring the "milk cream," so as to avoid any risk of its curdling.

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TAILOR-MADE GIRL COMING BACK TO FASHION'S REALM

Frocks of Fluff and Frill Make Way for Plain Shirt and Practically Cut Skirt.

The tailor-made girl is walking, in her own sure-footed way, back into the arena of fashion. Frocks all fluff and frill alienated the feminine heart for a time and the plain shirt and the severely cut skirt were alighted unless golf or tennis or the out-of-doors gave them a brief hour's favor.

The tailored blouse appears this season in a variety of materials, silks and lins and even sheer batiste. The yoke is its familiar spirit once more, not the pointed yoke popular in the past, but a yoke out straight at the back and prolonging the shoulder line in front.

The tub silks are quite smart again, with the striped silk a greater favorite than the plain white or solid color.

They stay fresh so much longer than linen or lawn, and they launder so easily and well that they are far more practical than the skirt that is made of any other material.

The blouse sketched today is of striped wash silk, with a flaring collar and turn-back cuffs of linen, stiffly starched.

The narrow string tie, popular once more, is only just deep enough for the free movement of the throat and not the elongated V of the summer blouse.

The skirt is cut after an old pattern that is acquiring new prestige. It is close at the hips and gored in a way that gives enough width at the foot for freedom in walking.

There is a deep yoke to the skirt with a stimulating fold in front, along which three buttons are ranged for ornamental and not for utilitarian purposes. The skirt buttons in the back conveniently.

The pocket, placed rather low on the skirt beneath the yoke, is useful and gives the masculine touch necessary to the success of all tailored garments.

For the business girl or woman there is nothing so appropriate for office wear as the plain skirt and blouse.

The trim tailored look is very attractive under all circumstances, but office conditions make it sensible and suitable. The Vogue change too quickly in the elaborately cut or trimmed frocks to make them a wise investment for practical wear; that is, for wearing for a season, day in and day out.

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